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January 15, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

We are writing to ask that you strongly advocate approval of the Justice Department's settlement with Microsoft at the close of the public comment period. It is important to the American economy that this matter be resolved, and that Microsoft be allowed to move forward with its business.

It is our understanding that the settlement reached will allow for additional competition in the computer market without requiring Microsoft to operate from a competitive disadvantage. The formation of an oversight committee to monitor the settlement will also help avoid future unnecessary litigation.

We appreciate being afforded the opportunity to address this important issue.

Thank you.

Sincere regards,

Robert D. and Aline Soutter

cc: Senator Strom Thurmond